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# NEWS RELEASE
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## Inmates Give Back to Victims

Arizona Department of Corrections inmates and staff raised a record amount of funds to donate to victims of crime.

During a ceremony kicking off National Victims' Rights Week at the Executive Tower this past Monday, April 24, Dora Schriro, Director of the Arizona Department of Corrections, presented two checks totaling $66,357.58 to Beckie Miller, chapter leader for Parents of Murdered Children, Valley of the Sun chapter, and Yvette Black, a volunteer and member of the Board of Directors for Homicide Survivors, Inc. in Tucson. The funds were raised by ADC staff and inmates, a 366% increase over the department's first year of giving in 2004.

In 2004, ADC staff and inmates raised over $18,000 for the Arizona Victim Services Coalition. In 2005, the agency presented checks totaling more than $48,000 to the Arizona Coalition against Domestic Violence, the Arizona Sexual Assault Network and the Arizona Child and Family Advocacy Center Network. ADC already has plans in place to build on its 2006 record-high dollar total through a variety of fundraisers at each of its 10 prison complexes this coming year.

"I am very proud to be a part of organization committed to public service as well as public safety," Director Schriro said. "The department's exceptional staff leads by example in their giving and the inmate population responds generously in kind. No where else in this country do correctional employees, inmates and crime victims routinely come together to serve those in need."

Through the department's Office of Victim Services, ADC supports crime victims and survivors; holds offenders accountable through restorative justice programming; and generates public awareness through outreach and education about crime victims' rights and needs.

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